

Message Text

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11

ORIGIN SCI-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SMI-01 RSC-01 /013 R

DRAFTED BY SCI/AE:JLBLOOM

APPROVED BY SCI/AE:JLBLOOM

SCI - N. SIEVERING

EA/J - C. DUNKERLEY

SCI/EN - L. GRANT

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R 091950Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO DR R CITRON

SMITHSONIAN OBSERVATORY

CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS

UNCLAS STATE 222719

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR SHIP MUTSU

REF: STATE 218344 AND (B) SMITHSONIAN TELEX 10-1-74

1. DEPT. OFFICER HAS DISCUSSED REFTELS WITH DR. CITRON, SMITHSONIAN OBSERVATORY, CAMBRIDGE. CITRON STATED THAT SMITHSONIAN WAS ACTING IN PRIVATE CAPACITY AND UNDER PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES WHICH PERMITTED IT TO MAKE INQUIRIES DIRECTLY TO USG EMBASSIES AND FOREIGN AGENCIES WHEN IT OBTAINS EVIDENCE OF TRANSIENT EVENT THAT AFFECTS ENVIRONMENT. PROCEDURE DESIGNED TO CUT RESPONSE TIME THAT WOULD BE EXPERIENCED BY GOING THROUGH USG CHANNELS.

2. DEPT. OFFICER POINTED OUT THAT MUTSU RADIATION LEAKAGE OCCURRED SOME WEEKS AGO AND EXPLAINED NATURE OF OCCURRENCE, CLAIMING THAT SHORT REACTION TIME WAS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE OF LONG DELAY AND LACK OF EVIDENCE THAT ANY RADIOACTIVITY HAD BEEN RELEASED, AND THAT INQUIRY THROUGH EMBASSY TOKYO CHANNEL TO GOJ AGENCIES COULD BE EMBARRASSING POLITICALLY
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TO GOJ AND HENCE TO USG. CITRON CONTINUED THAT REPORTING

ON EVENT WAS NECESSARY AND THAT WHEN SMITHSONIAN RECEIVED
COPY OF REFTEL (A), HE HAD SENT PRIVATE TELEX TO EACH OF
FIVE JAPANESE AGENCIES REQUESTING INFORMATION OF TYPE
IN REFTEL (B). DEPT. OFFICER QUERIED HIM IF ATOMIC ENERGY

BUREAU, STA, WAS ONE OF ADDRESSEES AND REPLY WAS NEGATIVE.

3. DEPT. LEAVES MATTER IN HANDS OF EMBASSY TO DETERMINE
FROM POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL POINT OF VIEW IF FURTHER
ACTION BY EMBASSY TO CONTACT GOJ AGENCIES IS NECESSARY OR
APPROPRIATE. IF DECISION IS MADE TO CONTACT GOJ, SUGGEST
THAT STA BE ASKED TO SEND REPORT TO SMITHSONIAN ALSO, ON
BASIS THAT AGENCY HAVING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MUTSU OPER-
ATION IS BEST QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE REQUESTED INFO. ADVISE
ACTION TAKEN. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MATSU, RADIOACTIVE WASTES DISPOSAL, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE222719
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JLBLOOM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740288-0224
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741059/aaaabygp.tel
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30 JUN 2005

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